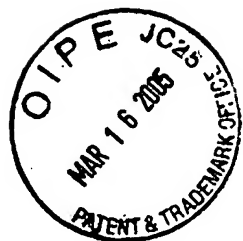


IPW



PATENT  
Serial No. 10/614,863  
Docket No. 29284-594

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Yasuo Inoue  
Serial No. : 10/614,863  
Deposited : July 9, 2003  
For : EXTERNAL STORAGE SUBSYSTEM  
Group : 2182  
Examiner : Alan S. Chen

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

**Mail Stop - Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant respectfully responds to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2004 as follows: